

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00  
EB-08 COME-00 SSM-05 MCT-01 /066 W  
-----270042Z 125780 /12

R 261500Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2823

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

DIA WASHDC

SECDEF WASHDC

USIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 2646

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SY

SUBJECT: SYRIAN MEDIA SUMMARY FOR APRIL 26, 1977

1. MEDIA LED WITH STORIES ON ADF ACTIONS AGAINST "SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS," CONDUCT OF MILITARY EXERCISES AND U.K. FOREIGN SECRETARY'S CALL FOR AMERICAN PRESSURE ON ISRAEL. BAATH HEADLINED: "DETERRENT FORCES CONTINUE TO COMB AREA WHERE SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS PRESENT. PLO ADDRESSES VEILED WARNING TO GROUPS SEEKING TO INFLAME SITUATION." STORY ON BEIRUT CLASHES ASCRIBED PROBLEMS TO DISSIDENT ELEMENTS AND SEEMED TO ABSOLVE MAINLINE PLO LEADERSHIP OF RESPONSIBILITY. PLO LEADERSHIP REPORTEDLY ISSUED ORDERS TO ALL ARMED ELEMENTS TO  
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WITHDRAW FROM STREETS AND ROOFTOPS IN VICINITY SABRA CAMP. ARTICLE STATED, "OBSERVERS REGARDED THESE COMMANDS AS WARNING TO SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS WHICH TRYING TO INFLAME SITUATION IN LEBANON ANEW."

2. SOLE COMMENTARY ON RECENT CLASHES IN BEIRUT ENTITLED, "THOSE WHO HAVE ACHIEVED PEACE WILL NOT PERMIT IT TO BE

ASSASSINATED AGAIN," WARNED "DISSIDENT SUBVERSIVE GROUPS" THAT ADF CAPABLE OF FOILING ANY INCIDENTS AND WILL NOT PERMIT ANY GROUP BLOCK EFFORTS TO RESTORE STABILITY TO LEBANON.

3. KHADDAM VISIT. ARTICLES REPORTED FONMIN KHADDAM'S ARRIVAL FROM PARIS AFTER DISCUSSIONS HE HELD IN US WITH PRESWM CARTER AND SECRETARY VANCE "OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN ME SITUATION AND BILATERAL RELATIONS." ARTICLE NOTED PREPARATIONS HAD BEEN MADE FOR CARTER-ASAD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 9 IN GENEVA. SANA CORRESPONDENT REPORTED THAT DISCUSSIONS KHADDAM HELD "WERE MARKED BY FRANKNESS AND CLARITY; KHADDAM PUT FORWARD SYRIAN VIEWPOINT REGARDING ME CRISIS."

4. ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION. PRESS FIRED SEVERAL MORE SALVOS AGAINST ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION--A CAMPAIGN BELATEDLY BEGUN YESTERDAY. EDITORIALS DEFENDED BOYCOTT AS LEGITIMATE ECONOMIC MEASURE, NOT AIMED AT PROMOTING RACIAL OR ETHNIC DISCRIMINATION. US CHARGED WITH HAVING BIASED PRESS UNDER "ZIONIST" INFLUENCE. BOYCOTT SAID NOT TO INTERFERE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES BUT TO BE ADDRESSED TO PRIVATE FIRMS, AND EDITORIALS ASSERTED THAT ARABS LIKEWISE "WOULD NOT PERMIT FOREIGN RESOLUTIONS TO INTERFERE IN ACTIONS WHICH THEY CONSIDER TO BE IN DEFENSE OF THEIR LAND AND DESTINY; NOR WILL THEY TOLERATE ANY COMPANY VIOLATING BOYCOTT PRINCIPLES ON BASIS OF FOREIGN REGULATIONS."

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5. JIBRAN KURIYA WRITING IN TISHRIIN WELCOMED FORTH-COMING VISIT OF FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN AND NOTED THAT BRITAIN STILL CAPABLE PLAYING POLITICAL ROLE IN SEARCH OF POLITICAL SOLUTION TO ME CRISIS, "EVEN IF THIS ROLE NOT PRIMARY." HE STRESSED THAT BRITISH ECONOMIC INTERESTS IN THE REGION SHOULD PROMPT BRITAIN TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT "LEGITIMATE DEMAND PUT FORWARD BY ARABS." BRITAIN'S FUTURE ECONOMIC INTERESTS IN AREA LINKED TO ADOPTION OF "CLEARER AND MORE EFFECTIVE ATTITUDE IN PEACE EFFORTS" WITHIN EEC, UN, AND THE REGION AS A WHOLE.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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